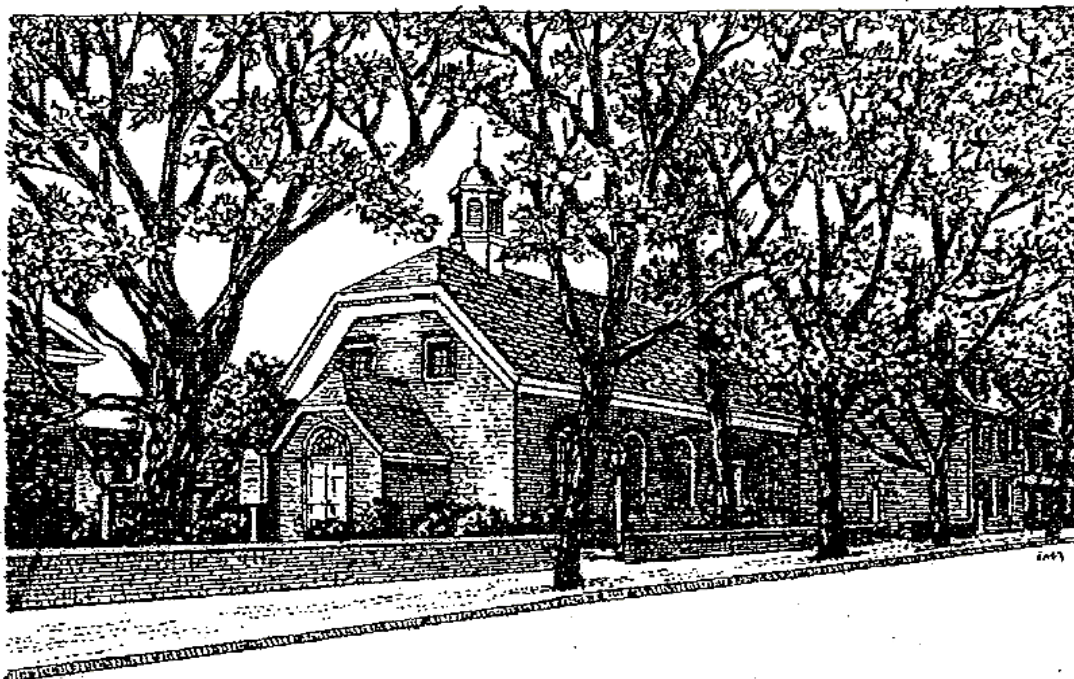


# New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E 2nd Street, New Castle, DE 19720

Phone: (302) 328-3279 | Email: [office@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:office@newcastlepreschurch.org)

[www.newcastlepreschurch.org](http://www.newcastlepreschurch.org)



New Castle Presbyterian Church ~ Built 1707 ~ New Castle, Delaware

## *Our Mission*

New Castle Presbyterian Church offers a nurturing and supportive church community where all are welcomed to join in prayer and song, study and service as all are called to demonstrate understanding, compassion, and acceptance.

By God's Spoken Word and Holy Spirit, we seek to live out the Gospel of the Risen Christ, as we grow spiritually, in strength, and with inclusiveness. We worship God in simplicity and with clarity; we study God's Word to direct our lives; and we nurture the young and the searchers in our midst.

As a congregation and in cooperation with others, we engage in service and outreach with the local community and the world. We work to feed, clothe, and shelter our brothers and sisters while sharing the selfless and forgiving love of Jesus Christ.

As we have been blessed, we seek to use all that we have to bless others with this good news of grace and joy.

# **Welcome to New Castle Presbyterian Church!**

Whether you are worshiping with us in-person or joining via livestream, we gather today as a community of faith, seeking and serving the God we know in Jesus Christ. May this worship service remind you that you are God's own and that together we are called to live out God's way of love, justice and peace.

## **For folks joining us for in-person worship,**

**A little help** - Please see an usher to receive any assistance, including a personal seat cushion.

**Restrooms** are located in the Education Building, at the far end of the Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday School and Nursery will be offered today.** Children are invited to begin in worship; worship bags are available at the entrance. Following the Scripture Conversation, babies through four-year-olds may go to nursery; children age Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade may go to Sunday School. All children must have an information form on file. Please see an usher for a copy of the form or if you have any questions. If your family needs to step out of the Meeting House for a time, there is a livestream feed and "pray ground" in the Fellowship Hall.

**At the end of worship,** please join us for Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall.

**Worship "code":** \* = please stand if able    **bold** = all speak together

### **Gentle Reminders:**

Please turn off all cell phones.

Parking spaces on 2nd Street in front of the Meeting House are for handicapped parking only.

Please put your bulletins in the blue recycle can at the door as you leave – we recycle!

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Pastor Miriam's day of rest is on Mondays.

# New Castle Presbyterian Church

## Baptism of the Lord

January 7, 2024

10:30 a.m.

### GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**Prelude**

Sweet Hour of Prayer  
Bethany Faiz - Piano

arr. Lloyd Larson

### **Welcome & Words about The Life and Work of the Church**

#### **Greeting of Peace**

As Jesus greeted his disciples, so let us greet one another:

The peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

*Please wave at your neighbors and extend Christ's greeting,  
"Peace be with you".*

**Steeple Bell**

**Choral Introit**

**Call to Worship** (*from Psalm 29*)

The voice of the Lord is over the waters.

**God's voice is powerful and full of majesty.**

In awe before God's strength, we sing the Lord's praises.

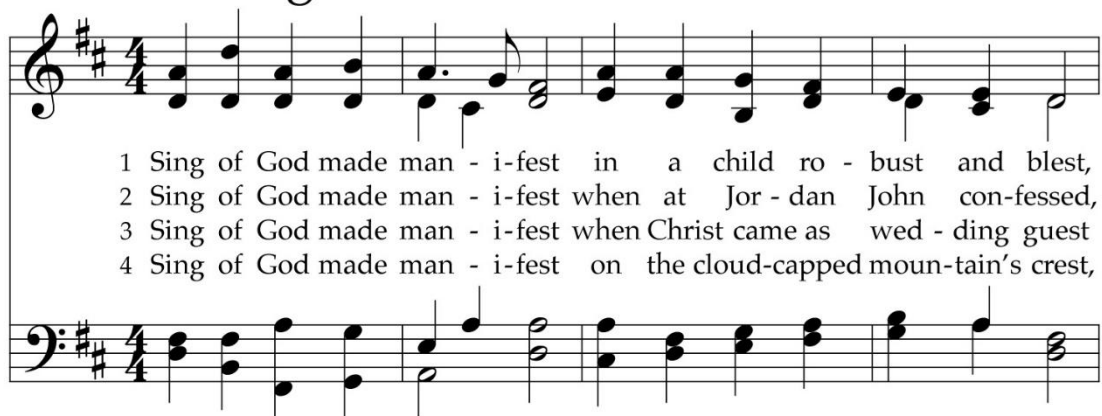
**In awe before God's glory, we worship God's holy splendor.**

May the Lord give strength to his people!

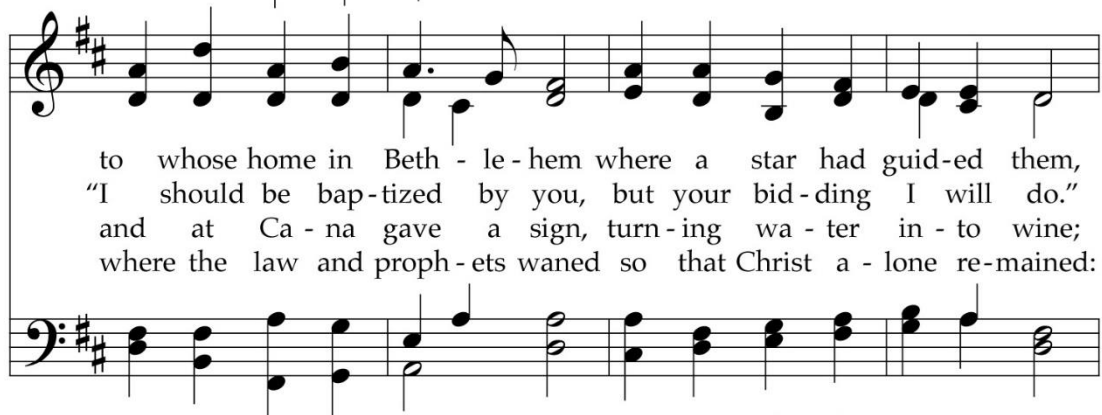
**May the Lord bless his people with peace!**

**\*Hymn #156**

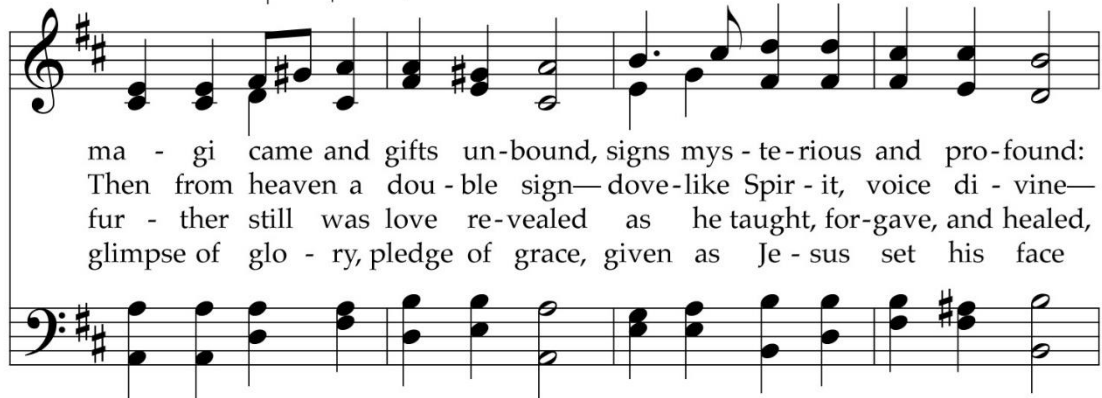
**Sing of God Made Manifest**



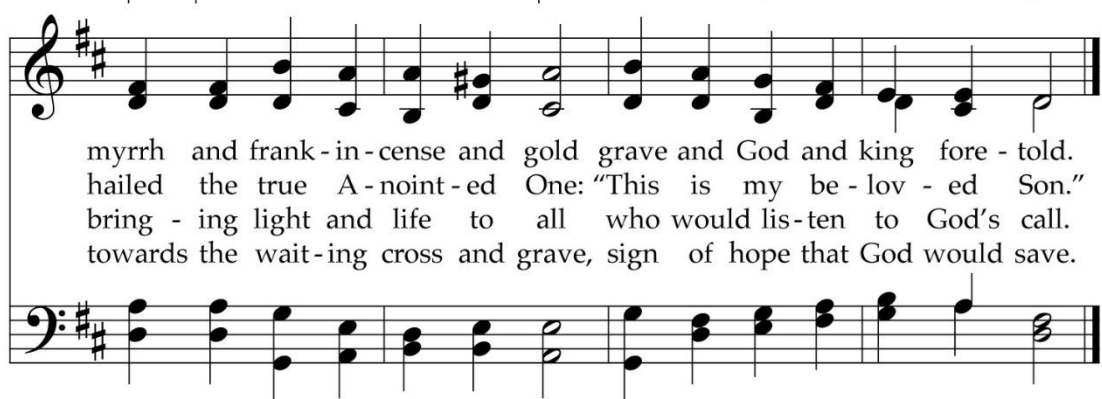
1 Sing of God made man - i - fest in a child ro - bust and blest,  
2 Sing of God made man - i - fest when at Jor - dan John con - fessed,  
3 Sing of God made man - i - fest when Christ came as wed - ding guest  
4 Sing of God made man - i - fest on the cloud - capped moun - tain's crest,



to whose home in Beth - le - hem where a star had guid - ed them,  
"I should be bap - tized by you, but your bid - ding I will do."  
and at Ca - na gave a sign, turn - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
where the law and proph - ets waned so that Christ a - lone re - mained:



ma - gi came and gifts un - bound, signs mys - te - rious and pro - found:  
Then from heaven a dou - ble sign—dove - like Spir - it, voice di - vine—  
fur - ther still was love re - vealed as he taught, for - gave, and healed,  
glimpse of glo - ry, pledge of grace, given as Je - sus set his face



myrrh and frank - in - cense and gold grave and God and king fore - told.  
hailed the true A - noint - ed One: "This is my be - lov - ed Son."  
bring - ing light and life to all who would lis - ten to God's call.  
towards the wait - ing cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

"Epiphany" means "manifestation" or "showing forth," and this text cites key disclosures of Jesus as Messiah: the coming of the Magi, his baptism by John the Baptist, the wedding at Cana. All are summed up in the Transfiguration, recalled on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany.

## **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Creator God, we give thanks that in baptism you give us new birth. Through water and your Spirit, we have been marked for new life in Christ. And yet, our old, dusty ways cling to us closely.**

**You claim us as your children, but we have not loved you as we should. Driven by our fear, we hurt our neighbors and harm ourselves. You claim us as your children, but we have not followed in your way of mercy and peace. We grow weary and give up when the way is hard.**

**Forgive us, loving God. Teach us to remember our baptism and receive the Holy Spirit again and again. Speak to us words of mercy and guide us with your love... *(Time for silent prayer.)***

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Let us proclaim the Good News together:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

### **\*Response #582**

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen. (sing 3x)**

**As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

*Copyright Paul M. Vasile, used by permission*

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### **Anthem**

Spirit, Like A River John Parker and David Lantz III  
Bethany Faiz – Piano

*Spirit, like a river flow in my heart. Gently guiding my soul. Let your living water run through my life. Come and take control. Holy Spirit, come, Spirit, like a river, come and set your course in me. Spirit, like a cool wind, blow through my life, gently guiding my soul. Let your calming breezes move through my heart. Come and take control. Holy Spirit, come, Spirit, like a cool wind, come and set your course in me. One holy family, one holy place, sharing in the unity of God's grace. He has provided for us from above. His Spirit of love. Holy Spirit, come, Spirit, like a river, come and set your course in me. Holy Spirit, come, Spirit, like a river, come and set your course in me. Spirit, like a river, flow in my heart.*

### **Scripture Conversation with Children**

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

**God of heaven and earth, we gather in the name of Jesus to hear your holy Word and to be immersed in your Spirit. Speak to us with grace and truth and pour out your love upon us so that this temple may resound with joyful shouts of glory; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### **Scripture Lesson**

**Mark 1:4-11**

**Page: NT 34**

<sup>4</sup> So John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

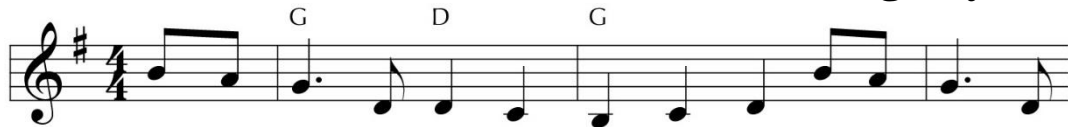
#### **Sermon**

*A New Creation*

# GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\*Hymn #488

## I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry



1 "I was there to hear your born - ing cry; I'll be there when  
2 "When you heard the won - der of the Word, I was there to  
3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no



you are old. I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to  
cheer you on. You were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord to  
lon - ger young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, com -



see your life un - fold. I was there when you were but a  
whom you now be - long. If you find some - one to share your  
plete what I've be - gun. When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es



child with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of  
time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to  
in and you shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as



light you wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell."  
make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."  
I have al - ways been with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born - ing cry; I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold."

Originally created to accompany a video series on baptism, this hymn speaks in the imagined conversational voice of God, assuring the person being baptized of God's presence throughout the changing stages of life. It offers a reminder that baptism is a once-in-a-lifetime event.

## **Offerings of Tithes and Gifts**

Offertory

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

arr. Martha Mier

Bethany Faiz - Piano

### **\*Response #607**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Christ, all people here below;**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore.**

**Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Almighty God, you wonderfully created, and more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature. We thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, and for the gift of another new year. May our offerings spread new hope and possibilities to your creation, and may our whole lives be gifts of praise to you, God of love and peace. Amen.**

## **Communion and Prayers of the People**

Invitation

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,**

**as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but**

**deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and**

**the glory, forever. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Partaking

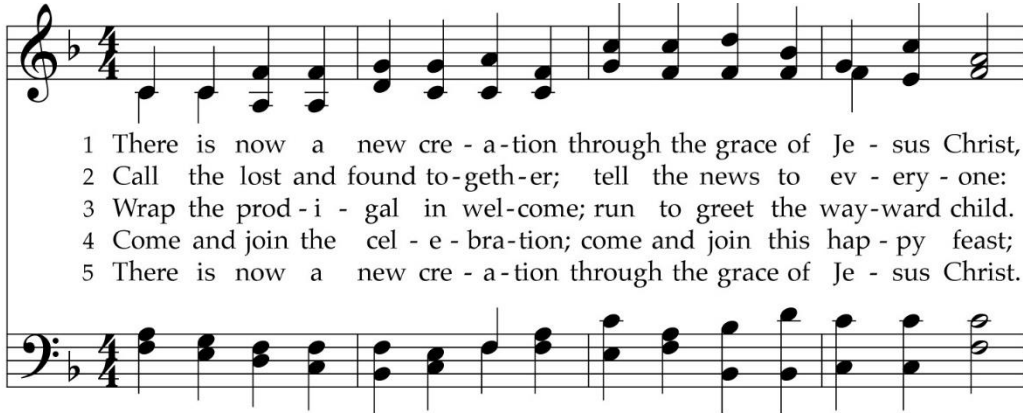


Prayer

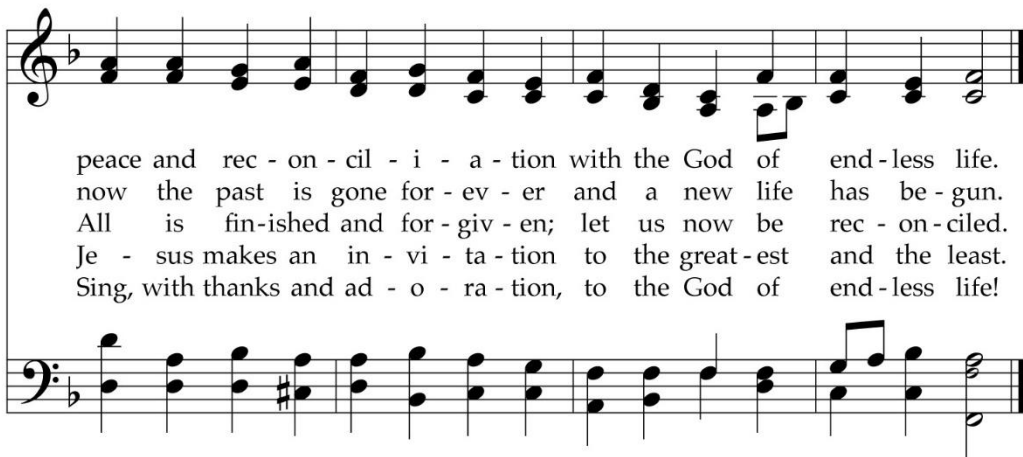
GO IN GOD'S NAME

\*Hymn #774

**There Is Now a New Creation**



1 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ,  
2 Call the lost and found to - geth - er; tell the news to ev - ery - one:  
3 Wrap the prod - i - gal in wel - come; run to greet the way - ward child.  
4 Come and join the cel - e - bra - tion; come and join this hap - py feast;  
5 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ.



peace and rec - on - cil - i - a - tion with the God of end - less life.  
now the past is gone for - ev - er and a new life has be - gun.  
All is fin - ished and for - giv - en; let us now be rec - on - ciled.  
Je - sus makes an in - vi - ta - tion to the great - est and the least.  
Sing, with thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, to the God of end - less life!

At the center of this text stands a reference to the well-known parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32), and the fourth stanza forms an effective bridge between that gospel story and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The first and last stanzas draw on 2 Corinthians 5:17.

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009  
MUSIC: Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715, alt.  
Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.)

STUTTGART  
8.7.8.7

**\*Charge and Benediction**  
**Choral Benediction**

**Steeple Bell**  
**Postlude**

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life arr. Lloyd Larson  
Bethany Faiz - Piano

*Please remain seated through the Postlude.*  
*As you exit, you may recycle your bulletin in the basket at the door.*

**Thank you for serving today:**

Worship Leader: Jane Fouracre                      Counters: Gary Graham/Scott Selheimer  
Communion: Amy & Scott Selheimer, Chris Fagles, and Peter McCurdy  
Ushers: Peter & Kelly McCurdy                      Coffee Hour: Liz Toto & Deacons  
Nursery: Lynn Smith/Julie Barry  
Sunday School: Stephanie Foltz/Melissa Boris

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:

*Horace L. Deakyne*  
*1892-1979*

*Arlene Bromwell*  
*1922-2015*



**THANK YOU FOR THE COOKIES!**

Thank you all for your generous donations of cookies for Jim Stoudt's funeral reception and also for our Spirit of Christmas celebration. We had so many leftovers that we are able to send them to Emmanuel Dining Hall in lieu of our regular donation of brownies. We will back to donating brownies in February, so look for brownie box mixes on the bench in the CE building at the end of January. Your support is greatly appreciated. Brownies are due back on or before the sixth of each month. Feel free to bring them early and put them in the freezer marked for Emmanuel Dining Hall.

**SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER ON A SUNDAY MORNING**

We are in need of ushers and worship leaders. Please sign up today:

<https://www.newcastlepreschurch.org/on-line-signups> We're also in need of volunteers for First Sunday coffee hours. Sign up is in the Fellowship Hall.

**YOUNG-ISH WOMEN'S GATHERING – TODAY**

Our fellowship group for women between the ages of ~25 and 50 will gather today after coffee hour. Let Pastor Miriam know if you're able to attend or would like to be included on the list for future gatherings. Childcare can be available; RSVP to Pastor Miriam for more information.

## **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – THIS TUESDAY**

NCPC will offer a six-week grief support group this winter. Beginning on Tuesday, January 9 and running through February 13, gather in the library at 2 p.m. with Minerva Lermond and Toni Marley to discuss *Your Particular Grief* (Oates). Some copies will be available for purchase for \$15 from the church office, or order your copy through [pcusastore.com](http://pcusastore.com).

## **JANUARY 21 SPEAKER ON SUICIDE AWARENESS**



Mark your calendars for a Coffee Hour talk on January 21 by New Castle neighbor Leah Reynolds. Beyond her day job running Kennett Area Community Service, Leah is a passionate campaigner for suicide prevention, awareness, and change. Recognizing the intersectionality of suicide, we will provide information about different resources in our area. In Christ's name, we are called to remove the stigma around mental illness and addiction, encouraging compassionate support for individuals and their families. This event is co-sponsored by the Deacons and Congregational Life.

## **NEW MEMBERS CLASS – SUNDAY, JANUARY 28**

Anyone considering joining NCPC - or- liking what they observe and wanting to learn more is encouraged to meet other newbies after Coffee Hour on January 28. Join members of the Congregational Life committee in the Fellowship Hall around 12:15 for additional lunch fare and conversation.

## **GUATEMALA FUEL-EFFICIENT STOVES - A HOT COMMODITY!**

Our Guatemalan Partnership's [fuel-efficient stove project](#) raised enough to sponsor another 100+ stoves, surpassing our goal! This means that more families will save time and money, their health will improve, trees will not be cut down, and the five workers who make and deliver the stoves have secure employment for another 12 months. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously!

## **A NEW TWIST TO UNDIE SUNDAY – VOLUNTEER ON FEB 4**

Between now and February 4, we're collecting *new* underwear for Friendship House. All shapes, sizes and colors are needed for men, women and children (even beyond extra-large, like 2X, 3X and 4X), including socks! Donations can be dropped off in the CE building baskets in the entryway.

*And for something new this year, our friends at the Clothing Bank have invited us that same day (Feb. 4) to tour their Wilmington facility and volunteer assisting the staff in their duties.* Bring a brown bag lunch, and we'll head out around Noon. Those of you (ages 6 and up, please) who would like to join our visit/volunteer opportunity, please contact Scott Selheimer ([selheime@udel.edu](mailto:selheime@udel.edu)) no later than Feb. 1. Once we get an idea of how many will attend, we can arrange carpooling.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS EARLY**

March 16th at 6:00pm Blue Coats basketball game at the Chase Fieldhouse. Wish winter goodbye by watching the Delaware Blue Coats play the Birmingham Squadron; the game starts at 6:00 pm. We have 16 premium seats reserved together in Section 7. Tickets are \$21 each. Please contact Greg Fogarty cell is (302) 437-4731 for tickets.

## **UPCOMING NCPC FUNERALS IN THE MEETING HOUSE**

On January 13, Joan Smith's visitation will begin at 10:30, and her memorial service will begin at 11:30.

On January 20, Bruce Gordon's visitation will begin at 1 p.m., and his memorial service will be at 2 p.m.

## **MEMBER UPDATES**

Congratulations to Mallory and Brendan Mackie and their family on their wedding on December 30, 2023. May God bless your marriage!

Blessings to WilmU student Brice Hansen as she transfers to Mercyhurst this Spring semester. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

## **Prayer List:**

To place a name on the confidential Prayer Chain, contact Susan Flook,  
302-328-7346 [suzieflook@hotmail.com](mailto:suzieflook@hotmail.com)

## ***Continuing Care Homes / Hospitals:***

### ***Rod Denison***

Coral Springs Healthcare Ctr.  
505 Greenbank Rd., Room C7  
Wilmington, DE 19808

### ***Linda Twyford***

New Castle Nursing & Rehab  
32 Buena Vista Dr,  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 328-2580

## ***At Home:***

### ***Kathy Griffin-Graham***

323 Oregon Avenue  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 324-9944

### ***Anita Johnson***

Cokesbury  
724 Loveville Road,  
HealthCare Rm 2006  
Hockessin, DE 19707

### ***Janet Reed***

106 Colesbery Drive  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 328-6749

### ***Mary Duncan***

1323 Richard's Alley  
Wilmington, DE 19806  
(302) 888-0282

### ***Judy Hentkowski***

128 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 328-8266

### ***Robert Lindfors***

202 Brylgon Ave.  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 328-5369

### ***David Lioi***

201 Natalia Drive  
New Castle, DE 19720

## ***On Assignment with the Coast Guard:***

### ***George Spock***

USCGC Scheuerman  
PSC 851 P.O. Box 11620  
FPO AE, 09834

## ***On Assignment with the Air Force:***

### ***James Boyle***

1150 Bole Street, Unit 54  
JBPHH, HI 96860

*This Week's Schedule*

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>01/07</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>In-Person &amp; Live Stream Worship &amp; Communion</b>
		<b>10:50am</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
		<b>11:30am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
		<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Young-ish Women Gathering</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>01/09</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>	<b>Grief Group</b>
		<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Mission &amp; Outreach Meeting</b>
		<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Session Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>01/10</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
		<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>01/11</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Celebration Ringers</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>01/13</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Tai Chi</b>
		<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Joan Smith Visitation</b>
		<b>11:30am</b>	<b>Joan Smith Memorial Service</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>01/14</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>In-Person &amp; Live Stream Worship</b>
		<b>10:50am</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
		<b>11:30am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
		<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Deacon's Meeting</b>

*Kris will be on vacation Friday, 1/12 and Monday, 1/15 (office closed)*

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# New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E. 2nd Street  
New Castle, DE 19720

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Pastor E-mail: [pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org)

Website: [www.newcastlepreschurch.org](http://www.newcastlepreschurch.org)

**Rev. Miriam Foltz, Pastor**

**Kris Krawczyk, Admin. Assistant**

**Eileen Larkin, Dir. of Music**

**Dan Knox, Treasurer**

**Minerva Lermond, Dir. of Handbells**

**Shirley Knox, Recording Secretary**

**Bethany Faiz, Accompanist**

## SESSION

2024	2025	2026
Rob Barry	Melissa Boris	Cynthia Beam
Chris Fagles	Jennifer Dunham	Peter McCurdy
Greg Fogarty	Connie Reese	Walt Sparrow-Hood
Scott Selheimer		

*Session meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month*

## DEACONS

2024	2025	2026
Susan Fogarty	Toni Marley	Lindy Ballance
Julia Spock	Janet Spring	Liz Toto
Sandy Wilson		
Miranda Matthews		

*Deacons meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month*

## TRUSTEES

2024	2025	2026
Lyn Briggs	Marshall Freund	Mary Fontinha
Gary Graham	Mike Smith	Gail Seitz
Barbara Whisman		

*Trustees meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday every other month (Sept/Nov/Jan/Mar/May)*

